

name be removed as cosponsor of H.R. 3396.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2801

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2801.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 375

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may be removed as a cosponsor of H. Res. 375.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3000

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

#### MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF CON- FERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4059, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AP- PROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider the conference report accompanying the bill (H.R. 4059) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived, and that the conference report be considered as read when called up.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3396 and H.R. 1515

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor from H.R. 3396 and H.R. 1515.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

#### CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO GERALD R. AND BETTY FORD

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking and Financial Services be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3506) to award a congressional gold medal to Gerald R. and Betty Ford, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I do so for the purpose of yielding to the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) for an explanation of the bill.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, under the gentleman's reservation in response, let me state that H.R. 3506 was introduced by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) and cosponsored by 296 Members. It authorizes President Clinton to present to Gerald R. and Betty Ford a gold medal on behalf of Congress and in recognition of their dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States, and to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the birth of President Ford, the 80th anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Ford, the 50th anniversary of the first election of Gerald R. Ford to the House of Representatives, and their 50th wedding anniversary.

The bill authorizes appropriation of up to \$20,000 to cover the cost of providing the medal. The actual amount spent for the medal is recouped by the Mint through the sale of authentic bronze reproductions of the medal.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, as a proud cosponsor of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 3506

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, to Gerald R. and Betty Ford a gold medal of appropriate design—

(1) in recognition of their dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States; and

(2) in commemoration of the following occasions in 1998:

(A) The 85th anniversary of the birth of President Ford.

(B) The 80th anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Ford.

(C) The 50th wedding anniversary of President and Mrs. Ford.

(D) The 50th anniversary of the 1st election of Gerald R. Ford to the United States House of Representatives.

(E) The 25th anniversary of the approval of Gerald R. Ford by the Congress to become Vice President of the United States.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$20,000 to carry out this section.

#### SEC. 2. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) STRIKING AND SALE.—The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 1 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROPRIATION.—The appropriation used to carry out section 1 shall be reimbursed out of the proceeds of sales under subsection (a).

#### SEC. 3. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3506, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report on H.R. 4059, and that I may include tabular and extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4059, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AP- PROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 4059) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.